

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00042 051737Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----076572 051743Z /46

O 051710Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7024
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0042

EXDIS

FOR COUNSELOR NIMETZ AND EUR/SE DIRECTOR EWING

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: CYPRUS MISSING PERSONS

REF: (A) NICOSIA 0034; (B) CRAWFORD/MEZVINSKY/EWING TELCON
JAN 5, (C) NICOSIA 0007

1. I SAW TURKISH AMBASSADOR ONHON LATER AFTERNOON JAN 5.
CONVERSATION WAS IN GENERAL QUITE UPBEAT, AND I FEEL THAT
PROSPECTS FOR AGREEMENT HAVE AGAIN MOVED FORWARD.

2. I TOLD ONHON THAT IT WAS MANIFESTLY IN EVERYONE'S
INTEREST TO REACH AGREEMENT BEFORE WALDHEIM'S ARRIVAL IN
CYPRUS JAN 14. IN THE MAIN, WASHINGTON HAD FAVORABLE INTER-
PRETED DENKTASH'S REMARKS DURING MY LAST CONVERSATION WITH HIM
JAN 3 (REF C). WE UNDERSTOOD DENKTASH'S NEED TO HAVE SOME-
THING ON THE RECORD AND IN THE PACKAGE REGARDING ICRC
POSITION. WE THOUGHT BEST WAY OF ACCOMMODATING DENKTASH MIGHT
BE TO HAVE ICRC, IN ITS LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE TO THE PARTIES
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 00042 051737Z

FOLLOWING RPT FOLLOWING ITS RECEIPT OF THEIR SEPARATELY
INITIALED COPIES OF AGREED TERMS OF REFERENCE, GIVE THE FLAVOR
OF ITS ATTITUDE. THIS WOULD AVOID ANY NEGOTIATION BEFORE
AGREEMENT. AMBASSADOR MEZVINSKY MIGHT BE VISITING
GENEVA THIS WEEKEND TO REACH AN UNDERSTANDING WITH
ICRC ON THIS. I SAID I REALIZED THIS PROCEDURE WOULD
ENTAIL SOME FAITH ON DENKTASH'S PART. HOWEVER, SUCH

FURTHER ASSURANCE AS GOT MIGHT BE ABLE PROVIDE HIM WITH REGARD TO ICRC POSITION, AND WHATEVER WE MIGHT ADDITIONALLY BE ABLE TO REPORT FOLLOWING OUR PROBABLE WEEKEND DISCUSSIONS WITH ICRC, OUGHT TO BE SUFFICIENT TO ENGENDER THAT FAITH.

3. ONHON SAID HE FAVORED THE SIMPLICITY OF THIS PROCEDURE AND WOULD SUPPORT IT WITHIN THE HOUR WITH BOTH ANKARA AND DENKTASH.

4. ONHON BROUGHT ME UP TO DATE ON DEVELOPMENTS FROM HIS SIDE. IN ADDITION TO A MORE EXPLICIT ASSURANCE FROM GOT REGARDING THE ICRC POSITION, AND SOME DOCUMENTARY REFLECTION OF ICRC POSITION IN THE FINAL PACKAGE, DENKTASH WANTS ASSURANCE FROM ANKARA THAT THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT APPROVES AND SUPPORTS HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT. ONHON SAID HE HAD JUST TELEPHONED DENKTASH'S POSITION TO TULUMEN. IN BRIEF, TULUMEN'S REPLY HAD BEEN THAT IN THE ORDINARY COURSE OF EVENTS IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO GET TO THE NEW MINISTER ON SUCH A MINOR MATTER FOR AT LEAST A WEEK. HOWEVER, SINCE AGREEMENT ON MISSING PERSONS IS FORTUITOUSLY IN TWO BIGGER BASKETS, HTHE OVERALL US/TURKISH RELATIONSHIP AND WALDHEIM'S JAN 9 VISIT TO ANKARA, TULUMEN THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO GET A POSITION FORM PRFESSOR/FONMIN OKCUN BY JAN 7.
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PAGE 03 NICOSI 00042 051737Z

5. ONHON AGREED THE SCHEDULE IS VERY TIGHT. IF THE NEW ECEVIT GOVERNMENT GIVES THE GREEN LIGHT, THE NEXT STEP WILL HAVE TO BE AN APPROACH TO THE PARTIES, PURSUANT TO THIRD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION, BY UN SENIOR POLAD GORGE FOLLOWING HIS RETURN NEXT WEEK FROM ACCOMPANYING WALDHEIM DURING LATTER'S VISIT TO TURKEY. IN ONHON'S THINKING AND MINE, GORGE SHOULD RETURN WITH CARTE BLANCHE FROM WALDHEIM. HE WOULD APPROACH BOTH SIDES WITH THE WORKING PAPER (WITH TITLE RECAST AS "TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A MIXED COMMITTEE ON MISSING PERSONS"), NOTING HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED AFTER PROLONGED NEGOTIATION AND REQUESTING THAT AN APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL BE AUTHORIZED TO INITIAL, SEPARATELY, COPIES OF THE AGREEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE TRANSMISSION TO ICRC. WE THINK WHOEVER IS ACTING FONMIN ON THE GOC SIDE AND CHELIK FOR THE TURKS SHOULD INITIAL. THERE MUST, OF COURSE, BE NO USE OF TITLES, OTHERWISE WE ARE AGAIN IN A CAULDRON.

6. ONHON PROMISED TO LET ME KNOW, OR HAVE DENKTASH INFORM ME, AS SOON AS WORD IS RECEIVED HERE ABOUT

THE POSITION OF FONMIN OKCUN AND THE NEW GOT.

7. FOLLOWING MY CONVERSATION WITH ONHON, I BRIEFED GORGE ON ALL THE FOREGOING. HE LEAVES FOR ISTANBUL JAN 6 AND WILL BRIEF WALDHEIM/URQUHART, AND OBTAIN IF POSSIBLE SYG'S BLANKET AUTHORIZATION TO WORK WITH US AND THE PARTIES NEXT WEEK.
CRAWFORD

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